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Weight and Quality Unimpaired.

A man at one of the hotels the other night told an interesting story of how the freighters in the far west used to supply themselves with whisky. I said that some years ago, when a freight on the frontiers was hauled in wagons, he happened to make a trip several hundred miles with a train of wagons carrying merchandise to remote settlements. Nearly every wagon contained one or more barrels of whisky.

"The first night out I noticed," said he, "great activity around the whisky barrels. The wagons each had a hatch and a gimlet. They would knock up a hoop, bore a hole, draw all the whisky they wanted, then put about as much fine gravel in the barrel as they could draw out whisky, drive a plug in the hole, and put the hoop back in place."

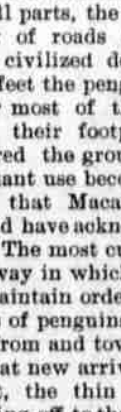
"I learned afterward that the barrels were weighed and the whisky tested before it was turned over to the freighter and that when it arrived at its destination it was again weighed and tested. The gravel supplied the weight and bulk and the quality remained the same and this was why it was used instead of water to supply the place of what had been taken out."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Penguins of Possession Island.

It was most remarkable to see what a regulated system of roads the inhabitants of Possession had arranged. From the beach a broad main track led straight into the middle of the island and from this secondary roads went out to all parts, the whole forming a network of roads apparently ruled by most civilized department. With bells and feet the penguins had carefully paved away most of the pebbles and stones from their footpaths, and where uncovered the grounds the roads had constant use become so smooth and neat that Macdonald in all his glory would have acknowledged himself beaten.

The most curious thing of all was the way in which the penguins seemed to maintain order in these paths. Currents of penguins were continually moving from and toward the beach. When the fat new arrivals always kept to the right, the thin penguins, which were moving off to the continent, always went to the left, and I never saw any fighting among them. The colony evidently formed one peaceful community.—C. C. Borchgrevink in Century.

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